(b) No, Sir.

(c) As on date WISL has to pay a total sum of Rs. 147 lakhs comprising of revised annual licence fee, sundry dues and interest on delayed payments. WISL has to extend two Bank Guarantees amounting to Rs. 345 lakhs as security towards lease rentals and Rs. 8 lakhs (performance guarantee for completion of the project) which have already expired. Out of the dues of Rs. 147 lakhs, WISL has paid Rs. 75 lakhs as part payment and have requested extension in time for payment of balance dues and for extension of Bank Guarantees. The Board of Trustees of Mormugao Port in its meeting held on 25.7.1997 had agreed to extend payment and submission of Bank Guarantee upto 30.8.1997.

Construction of Ship Building Yard near Mormugao Port Trust

1675. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of indiscriminate filling of sea in the name of construction of ship building yard within the jurisdiction of Mormugao Port Trust, which caused water rising in the paddy fields on the opposite side of the bank of river Zuari; and

(b) whether these recommendations are authorised by the MPT and clearance of Environment Ministry has been sought under the CRZ rules?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pitiable condition of National Highways in North Eastern Region

1676. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering launching of some proposals/ projects to improve upon the pitiable condition of the National Highways passing through different States of the North Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) The improvement of National Highways is a continuous process. 57 numbers of Road & Bridge projects have been proposed in Annual Plan 1997-98 with an estimated provision of Rs. 146.50 crores for the NE Region. Plan Budget allocations have been enhanced by 28.61% from Rs. 76.08 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 97.85 crores in 1997-98 for NH works in the NE Region including the stretches with Border Roads Organisation for which proposals for development and repair are initiated by Director General (Border Roads). In addition, Rs. 12.44 crores has been allocated for Jogighopa Bridge in Assam as Ministry's share.

(c) Does not arise.

Action Plan for projects under different financing mechanisms

1677. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authroity of India has prepared an action plan to implement a variety of projects under different financing mechanisms during the Ninth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Build Operate Transfer Scheme has drawn a very poor response from prtivate investors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) had prepared a Corporate Plan and had identified the list of projects to be taken up during the 9th Plan Period.

The projects identified in the Corporate Plan of NHAI for the 9th Plan Period include 4-laning of high traffic density corridors from Delhi-Calcutta, Calcutta-Chennai, Chennai-Mumbai and Mumbai-Delhi expressways construction of about 1000 Kms, about 50 ROBs, about 30 bypasses around congested towns and bridges over major rivers on various National Highways.

(c) and (d) The major policy components for Highway infrastructure Development through private sector participation (on Build Operate Transfer basis) has been put in place only recently and, therefore, the response from private investors is expected to pick up in near future. Projects worth Rs. 100 crores have been entered into and other projects of about Rs. 1000 crores are in the pipe line.

Construction of Shillong Bye-pass

1678. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the exact date on which construction of the Shillong Bye-pass would start;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Guwahati Bye-pass (National Highway) is not usable by small cars; and

(c) if so, by when Government propose to get it repaired for the benefit of the general public?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) It is too early to indicate the date of start of construction of Shillong Bye-pass as the firm proposals for alignment of Bye-pass are awaited from Meghalaya Government.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 17.03 crores for Maintenance and Repairs during 1997-98 had been allocated to Government of Assam. The State Government has been constantly impressed upon the necessity to keep the Guwahati Bypass and other National Highways in a traffic-worthy condition.

Length of National Highways

1679. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways in terms of Kilometres constructed in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the State-wise length of National Highways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) A length of 609 K.M. was added to National Highway network during the 8th Plan period.

(b) A statement giving details is annexed.

Statement

Total Length of National Highway in the Country, State-wise

S.No.	Name of States	Total Length (Km)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2888
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	330
3.	Assam	2296
4.	Bihar	2547
5.	Chandigarh	24
6.	Delhi	72
7.	Goa	229
8.	Gujarat	1631
9.	Haryana	698
10.	Himachal Pradesh	854
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	648
12.	Karnataka	1996
13.	Kerala	940
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2946
15.	Maharashtra	2918
16.	Manipur	431
17.	Meghalaya	472
18.	Mizoram	551
19.	Nagaland	113
20.	Orissa	1649